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IOWA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH Bureau of Radiological Health (BRH) Lucas State Office Building, 5th Floor 321 East 12th Street, Des Moines, IA 50319

April, 2013

<u>IDPH INFORMATION NOTICE:</u> 2013-P1 Revision to Chapter 42, "Permit to Operate Ionizing Radiation Producing Machines or Administer Radioactive Materials"

ADDRESSEES:

All Iowa Permit to Practice holders

PURPOSE:

This IDPH information notice is to inform all permit holders that Chapter 42 was revised in its' entirety and went into effect March 13, 2013. Please read this Information Notice carefully and consult the IDPH website for the entire revised chapter changes and for updates on implementation dates. www.idph.state.ia.us/IDPHRadHealth/permitstopractice.aspx

RATIONALE FOR THE REVISION:

Chapter 42 was revised to improve the format and to more closely align with national standards. The language is uniform from section to section. Some sections were removed because they were either outdated or deemed unnecessary and some sections were added to meet the needs of the permit holders. IDPH has experienced an extended period of staffing reduction, therefore, program activities have required prioritization.

OUTLINE OF MAJOR CHANGES (not all inclusive)

REQUIREMENTS REMOVED:

Reporting of CT education and earning separate CT continuing education. CT will again be considered a part of general diagnostic radiography.

Radiation protection continuing education requirement. 641-40.111 requires facilities to document radiation protection instruction. Therefore, a specific continuing education requirement is not needed. A separate notice will be sent to all facilities regarding the above requirement.

Posting of permits. Permits must be made available at the facility and must be provided upon request, however it is no longer required to be posted for public view. This change was made to protect the privacy of the permit holder.

Limited-In-Hospital radiologic technologist, limited nuclear medicine technologist, and limited in paranasal sinus classifications and categories will no longer accept new applicants.

APPROVAL OF CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAMS:

IDPH will continue to review continuing education programs only if they are to be presented before June 30, 2013. Any program scheduled for presentation after June 30, 2013, or any application for approval received after June 30, 2013, (regardless of the presentation date) will be returned. All programs already approved will

be honored until the expiration date of the program or January 1, 2015, whichever comes first. All future continuing education programs must be submitted and approved by an approval body accepted by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) such as the ASRT or NMTCB. All completion certificates must have the approval body's name and approval number in order to be accepted for renewal of a permit.

CONTINUING EDUCATION (CE) PROGRAMS TO BE ACCEPTED

Since the Bureau will not be approving continuing education programs after June 30, 2013, permit holders must complete continuing education that is approved by another approval body such as ASRT or NMTCB. All CE must have an approval number from the approval body on the completion certificate. Review Chapter 42, 641-42.18 for details.

A NEW CLASSIFICATION FOR X-RAY EQUIPMENT OPERATORS IN BONE DENSITOMETRY ADDED:

This classification is for those individuals who operate a bone densitometry unit but do not have an lowa permit to practice in diagnostic radiography. January 1, 2015, is the "effective" date in order to allow the individuals time to complete requirements needed to get a permit. A separate notice will be sent to those individuals. This classification does not apply to limited or general radiologic technologists.

CHANGES TO LIMITED RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGISTS TRAINING PROGRAMS:

The training programs are now defined as formal education. Schools will be notified of these changes and implementation dates set for the individual programs. This change was specifically intended to standardize the minimum requirements for formal education programs to ensure consistency for the students.

CONTINUING EDUCATION INCREASE IN HOURS:

The number of continuing education hours has increased for Radiologist Assistant and for Podiatric X-ray Equipment Operator. Please refer to the specific sections for these requirements.

COMBINATION PERMITS

Provisions were added to allow holders of two permits to combine them into one. Please see 42.13. Watch the website for updates on how to apply.

WEBSITE INFORMATION

Please check the IDPH website listed above for the entire Chapter 42 and rational for the changes. Check back frequently for the updates noted above. Please read carefully. it is your responsibility to know the requirements for your permit.

Thank you for your cooperation as we make these changes in the permit to practice program.	

Melanie Rasmusson, Chief Date

Bureau of Radiological Health

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